

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 stand rejected under 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wright (U.S. 5,857,201) in view of Arnold (U.S. Appl. No. 2003/0200282). The Applicant respectfully disagrees with these rejections. Nonetheless, claims 1-18 are cancelled, and new claims 19-32 are added to further distinguish over the cited references. The Applicant submits that these claims are patentable over the cited references and are in condition for allowance.

New independent claim 19 recites a method for searching a server application database that is patentably distinct from the cited references. For instance, claim 19 recites the steps of “searching a local application database on the mobile device to identify one or more data items stored in the local application database matching the search parameters,” “displaying on the mobile device a list of one or more data items identified from the local application database,” and “displaying an input field on the mobile device to enable a user to instruct the mobile device to execute a remote search operation.” If the user instructs the mobile device to execute the remote search operation, then the method further recites the steps of “transmitting a remote search request to the server...[that are used] to identify one or more data items stored in the server application database matching the search parameters,” “receiving an identification of the one or more data items identified from the server application database,” and “displaying one the mobile device a list of the one or more data items identified from the server application database.” An example of these displayed search results are shown in Figures 5 and 6 of the instant application.

Neither of the cited Wright and Arnold references, either alone or in combination, teach or suggest the method recited in new claim 19. At best, the Wright reference describes, in a very general way, the possibility that applications could be developed to allow a PDA device to query a database. The Examiner’s attempt to read anything more than this into the Wright reference is clearly an improper use of hindsight reconstruction. The Arnold reference does not relate to mobile devices at all. Rather, the Arnold reference merely teaches that network traffic between a client and a server may be reduced by maintaining certain data in a client-side cache and only retrieving data from the server as necessary.

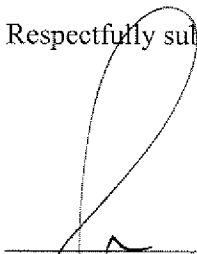
Nothing in either of these references suggest the method of searching both a mobile device and a remote database, as recited in claim 19. Claims 19-25 are therefore patentable over the cited prior art.

New independent claim 28 recites a mobile device having a local search module and a remote search module. Claim 28 includes similar limitations as method claim 19, and is patentable over the cited Wright and Arnold references for at least the same reasons as claim 19. Claims 28-32 are therefore patentable over the prior art.

New independent claim 26 recites a memory management method for a mobile device that is used to free needed memory on the mobile device by deleting one or more data items from the mobile device that also have copies stored on the server application database. Dependent claim 27 further recites that data items that have copies stored on the server application database are deleted from the mobile device before data items that do not. Support for new claims 26 and 27 may be found, for example, at paragraph 0033 of the publication of the instant application (US 2005/0187971). The Applicant submits that the prior art of record does not disclose anything similar to claims 26 and 27.

For at least the above reasons, the Applicant respectfully submits that claims 19-32 are patentable over the prior art of record, and are in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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